

THE BRIDE'S FAVORS.

An English Custom That Is Rapidly Disappearing in America.

The English custom of having white favors at weddings is rapidly obtaining here, and it interests one to know exactly where and when the custom first came about and what it means. With the ancient northern nations a knot seems to have been chosen as the symbol of indissoluble love, and they were the first to use the knot of ribbon as the decoration for a wedding. The word "treasure" does not mean true and love, as is generally supposed, but it comes from the Danish verb "Trulofs fiden do," that is, "I plight my truth." This seems to me a much prettier idea than the merely commonplace one of a true love knot. Nowadays the ribbons are invariably white, but in times gone by many bright colors were used and each color had a special significance. Very often the bridegroom wore his knot of ribbons on his hat for several weeks.

Ribbons in those days played a large part in the bridal ceremony. It was the duty of the bridesmaids to dress the bride's bed with them, and many discussions were had as to which colors would be in best taste or express the most. A discussion between them makes them decide not to have yellow ribbons, because they are the emblem of jealousy; not to have brown, because that denotes fading love; but to use true blue, which means constancy, with green, which tells of youth and hope. Somebody else wanted blue and black, as significant of love until death, but that was too suggestive of parting rather than wedding; another would have liked violet, because that represented religion, but this was too solemn, and after awhile they agreed upon it that gold tissue with green, as meaning youthful jollity, should form their decorations. A bride should not wear gold color, because it means avarice, nor green, the color of the poplar, because it means unfaithfulness and deceit. Pink would be out of place, for it whispers of desertion; so would saffron, which tells of inconstancy, and red, though it means justice, is not counted in taste.

In those days, when the garter was a decoration that might be spoken of, the ribbons used for those of the bride were of great importance, a perfect yellow, which meant honor and joy, being of-tenest chosen. The garter itself had long loops and ends, and in the north of England, immediately after the ceremony, the bride's gown was raised a little and the groomsman struggled to get pieces of her garter for good luck. This was done immediately before the altar. Later on the garter became the property of the bridesmaids, and the groomsman divided among themselves the points or lace scarf worn by the bridegroom. So today the happy bride who for luck wears—

Something old and something new,  
Something borrowed and something blue,  
and combines part of this in her garter by wearing a blue one lent her by the bridesmaid, is only following the example of brides of hundreds of years ago, and proving to the world at large that there was no such wisdom as that of King Solomon, who announced that "there was nothing new under the sun."

ISABEL A. MAILLON.

The Fashions of Paris.

In this world while one smiles another weeps, when one puts on festal raiment another must be clad in the tokens of sorrow, and while we may smile with the blithe one's gayety and feel a moisture in our eyes for the other one's grief we still shyly take note of what each has on.

Sorrow could not be half as touching do strangers without the emblems of mourning, and would be tenfold greater



WIDOW'S TOLLET—YOUNG LADY'S GOWN, to the bereaved one if she were deprived of the means to thus pay her respects to the dead. If we can judge then by the depth of the crape worn these last few months, surely grief was never so profound before. Touching the very ground at the back and hemmed half a yard deep are the widow's veils. But after the first few weeks, when the tear stain is faded from the cheeks and the swelling from the eyelids, a net veil can cover the face if it is properly bordered by a fold of crape an inch and a half wide. The tops of the sleeves and the full vest front and the panels are all made of crape, as is right and proper; but some like to have the whole front of the skirt covered with crape; but this is extreme.

From grave to gay. One makes the step in looking at the bright young girl in her pearl gray Henrietta, with its ruby velvet belt and dainty, tuque with the ruby velvet hat's ears. The dress is slightly draped across the waist and caught up at the side. In the back it is princess shape, with deep plaits, and the whole is ornamented with bands of American lynx and a narrow silver braiding. The corsage and sleeves are highly novel and will prove becoming to any slight young figure.

The style of dressing the hair is changing rapidly, and it will not be long before the most of it will be drawn back from the forehead and turned up over a small cushion, with a few fine little tendrils curling down over the face, mostly in the temples, and drawn up from the top of the neck.

The College Girl's Way.

The destruction of Calcutta, an every college man knows is an important event in his sophomore year. At Vassar, however, the objectionable classic is neither burned nor buried by the young woman students. After the January examinations of the sophomore, which finishes trigonometry, it is optional whether mathematics be further pursued, the teachers saying, while the girls usually object. A goddess always follows the "trig" finish, which is often a play bearing humorously on the month's condition. This year it took

The form of a mock trial, in which Mr. Victor Charnell, '94, was sued by Miss Ella Montross Trigonometre for breach of promise. The judge and jury were clever makeups and impersonators of the teachers, and the lawyers were bristling with college life and glib as the poor freshmen. It is needless to add the fair claimant got no verdict.—New York Times.

His Name.

The question, "What's in a name?" sometimes presents difficulties, but there is a negro in South Carolina who answers it without hesitation so far as his own case is concerned. He is a middle aged man, and was pointed out to a stranger by a gentleman in whose employ he is as a "character." "In what way?" asked the northern visitor. "I'll call him here," replied the other, "and you'll find out what I mean."

"My friend would like to know your name," he said to the colored man when he had summoned him.

"Yes, sah," replied the darky, turning a gleaming smile on the visitor. "My name, sah, is Thomas Caesar Victor Jubilee Fitzgerald Pompey Swan, K. Q. X, sah!"

"Ah!" ejaculated the northern man in amazement. "That's a fine name certainly. But what do those three letters at the end stand for—K. Q. X?"

"Well, sah," said the darky, with a still broader smile, "dey don't stand for nothin' p'cise. Y'see 'twas dis way. My young missus dat tote me all de first book larnin dat ever I had befo' de wah, sho larn me de alph'bet from my own name. It had all de letters in it jist exceptin dem tree, K, Q an X, an dose she writ after my name."

"I larn de alph'bet in dat way, an how to spell my name at de same time; an dem tree extry letters dat wa'n't in de body ob my name, as you might say, but was added on like, hab fixed dem selves so fum in my mind, sah, dat I al-ways speaks an writes dem jist nach'lly right after Swan, sah!"

"Ob course," added this much named man in a judicial tone, "some folks might say dem letters ain't really neces-sary; but it 'pears like as if my parents—what I never knowed, dey bein sold away from whar I was brung up—come so mighty near gettin de whole alph'bet in my name, 'tain't no more dan jist re-spectful an gratefulness to add dem tree, what jist slipped dere minds!"—Youth's Companion.

A Disappointed Heiress.

She was romantic. Her father was a millionaire, whose life had been de-voted to sausage making. He was practical, naturally, but all the poetry of her family was centered in her! She was beloved by another millionaire's son, but she had been reading romance and stuff, and when he proposed to her she declared that he must do something poetical for her.

"Dearest, what can I do?"

"Become a poor artist."

"I couldn't be any other kind of an artist."

"I mean you must intend to become a poor artist. Pa does not know you. You must come and make love to me and I will fall in love with you. Pa will object and make a row. We will elope and get married, and when it's all over we'll tell him, and it will be delightful."

And so he became a poor artist and took a poor studio, and daubed on canvas and pretended to paint pictures. And there was another millionaire's daughter got to coming to this studio and sitting for her picture. In those de-lightful tete-a-totes he forgot all about the romantic maiden, and when the ro-mantic maiden came one night in pos-sant costume as a sweet surprise to run away with him she found he was mar-ried to the other girl and had gone off on his honeymoon. She thinks that ro-mances are all lies now, and that noth-ing happens in real life as it happens in books.—London Tit-Bits.

One View of It.

"I don't think it's exactly fair for my teacher to keep me in because she can't read my writing," said Willie. "It isn't my fault if she doesn't know how to read."—Harper's Bazar.

Wit of Wags.



"I say, Beauty, that was a clever bit of yours on the tramp who called the other night."

"Yes; there was some snap to it."—Life.

The Mero the Merrier.

Mario—So you are engaged to Charlie Chester?  
Claire (carelessly)—Yes.  
Mario—Isn't he the fourth Charlie to whom you are engaged?  
Claire (listlessly)—I believe so.  
Mario—(Good gracious, Claire, how do you tell them apart?  
Claire (sweetly)—I don't.—Detroit Free Press.

YOUR HEALTH

May depend upon the way you treat the warn-ings which nature gives you as the spring comes on. A few bottles of S. S. S. taken at that time may insure good health for a year or two. Therefore ask at once, for it

IS IMPORTANT

that nature be assisted at the right time. S. S. S. never fails to relieve the system of im-purities and obstructions, and is an excellent tonic also.

He Wants to Add his Name.

"Permit me to add my name to your many other certificates in commendation of the great curative properties contained in Swin's Specific (S. S. S.). It is certainly one of the best tonics I ever used."

JOHN W. DANIEL, Anderson, S. C.

Treatise on blood and skin diseases mailed for 25 CENTS PER COPY. CO., Atlanta, Ga.

# HUDSON'S TOWER CLOTHING CO.

TOMORROW, SATURDAY

GREAT SPECIAL SALE -- 10 CASES

## MEN'S SOFT CRUSH HATS!

COLORS -- BLUE, BLACK and BROWN.

Special Sale Price for this Saturday Only.

44c

Special Sale Price for this Saturday Only.

Our new style Spring Derbys for Men and Boys are now in.

# HUDSON'S TOWER CLOTHING CO.



Headquarters for Phantoms. Wood Carriage Co.

## FLOWERS!

—FOR—

Wedding Parties and Funerals  
A SPECIALTY.

T. R. RENWICK & CO.,

123 MONROE STREET.

Telephone 144.

About April 1st we will be ready to clean your carpets. Plant now being built. Please remember us.

Respectfully,  
AMERICAN STEAM LAUNDRY

## GOLD and SILVER

Plating on Table Ware. Hack and Cutter Trimming in gold, silver or nickel.

Grand Rapids Electro Plating Co. 5 Erie Street.

DO YOU WANT TO KEEP WARM?

DO YOU WANT TO KEEP COOL?

You pay your money and take your choice by ordering

COAL OR ICE

—AT—

A. B. KNOWLSON'S,  
2 PEARL STREET.

## COAL FREE

from state and other im-pur-ties can be had of

CENTRAL COAL CO

69 OTTAWA ST.

Again at My Old Stand!

45 SOUTH DIVISION STREET

WITH FULL STOCK

Grain, Lime, Fire Brick, Hay, Cement, Lath, Feed, Sewer Pipe, Wood, etc

ALWAYS BOTTOM PRICES.

THOS. E. WYKES,

Office 112 S. Division St. Warehouse, Cor. Wealthy ave. and S. Louis st.

LAST WEEK

GIANT

We gave you a "Timely Talk" — a sort of general pointer about our spring goods—sim-ply to act as an entering wedge to spring more trade. We are after more business. We don't like to "boot our horn" too much, but it strikes us that the Giant's progress in stylish, ready-to-wear cloth-ing ought to interest you. You, young men, who want stylish garments--we'll save you one-half on tailor-made garments. You, older men who look and care more for the steady styles--we have just what you want: we've got the right goods; we've got the right prices. Paste this in your memory and see our stock before you spend a cent for spring wear.

## CLOTHING CO.

NEXT WEEK!

SEE

VALLEY CITY IRON WORKS.

ERIE AND MILL STREET

ADOLPH LEITELT,

MANUFACTURER OF

Steam Engines and oilers, and General Mill Machinery

NICHOLS' LUMBER DRYER. LESLIE'S IMPROVED VENEER CUTTER. Live or exhaust steam. Hot Blast Apparatus for heating factories, dry kilns, iron pipe fittings, valves, etc. Improved governors, iron and brass castings, building castings, etc.